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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Gurtej S. Sandhu and Sujit Sharan

Serial No.: 09/439,314

Filed: November 12, 1999

For: DEVICE FOR IN-SITU CLEANING OF AN
INDUCTIVELY-COUPLED PLASMA CHAMBER (as
amended)

§
§ Group Art Unit: 1763
§
§ Examiner: Parviz Hassanzadeh
§
§
§ Atty. Docket: 95-0392.02
§
§
§

RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY DATED NOVEMBER 12, 2003

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

12/17/03
Date

Susan Jerome
Signature

Dear Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the Notice of Allowability dated November 12, 2003. First, Applicants note an error in the title as in appears in the Notice of Allowance. The final word in the title as printed in the Notice of Allowance is "CHAMBERS" when it should be --CHAMBER--.
(See First Amendment transmitted 2/28/01.)

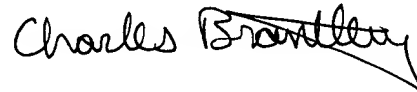
Second, Applicants note that the Examiner's reasons for allowance do not exactly track the claim language. Applicants contend that the claims are allowable based on the limitations expressed therein. For example, prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious claim 41's plasma processing system comprising a first chamber configured to generate a first plasma therein; and a second chamber coupled to the first chamber, wherein the second chamber is configured to initially generate a second plasma therein, further configured to lose an ability to generate that second plasma, and configured to receive the first plasma, wherein the first plasma is configured to restore that ability. Dependent claims 42-44 are allowable based on the limitations they

express as well as incorporate by reference. Similarly, Applicants contend that prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious claims 45-69 given their expressed/incorporated limitations. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner acknowledge such reasons for allowability.

Third, Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on November 12, 1999, with the original application documents (including the IDS references) but cannot locate a copy of the 1449 form initialed by the Examiner. Applicants request that the Examiner send an initialed copy of that 1449 form to Applicants. Copies of the previously submitted IDS and 1449 forms are attached to this Response.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: 12/17/3

Charles B. Brantley II
Reg. No. 38,086
Micron Technology, Inc.
8000 S. Federal Way
Boise, ID 83716-9632
(208) 368-4557
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**FEE TRANSMITTAL
for FY 2004**

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$) 0**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/439,314
Filing Date	November 12, 1999
First Named Inventor	Sandhu et al.
Examiner Name	Parviz Hassanzadeh
Art Unit	1763
Attorney Docket No.	95-0392.02

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)
☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money ☐ Other ☐ None
Order
☒ Deposit Account:Deposit
Account
Number

13-3092, Order No. 95-0392.02

Deposit
Account
Name

Micron Technology, Inc.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments
☐ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
 to the above-identified deposit account.
FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$ 0)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	29	-29 **	=	0	X	18	=	0
Independent Claims	8	-8 **	=	0	X	84	=	0
Multiple Dependent					X		=	0

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)**3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 0)**SUBMITTED BY****Complete (if applicable)**

Name (Print/Type)	Charles Brantley	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,086	Telephone	208-368-4557
Signature	Charles Brantley			Date	12/17/2

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Gurtej S. Sandhu and Sujit Sharan

Serial No.:

Filed: November 12, 1999

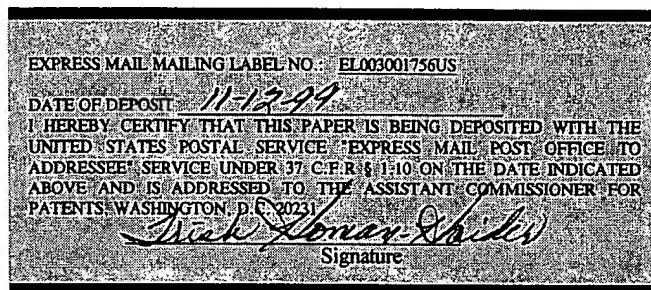
For: METHOD FOR IN-SITU CLEANING OF
INDUCTIVELY-COUPLED PLASMA CHAMBERS

§
§ Group Art Unit:
§
§ Examiner:
§
§ Atty. Docket: 95-0392.02
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§
§
§

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:



In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully request that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and that the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed references are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possible material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

The following references are submitted for the Examiner's review:

U.S. Patents

<u>U.S. Patent No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Inventor</u>
5,824,607	10/20/98	Trow et al.
5,817,534	10/06/98	Ye et al.
5,812,403	09/22/98	Fong et al.

5,792,272	08/11/98	van Os et al.
5,788,799	08/04/98	Steger et al.
5,788,778	08/04/98	Shang et al.
5,614,055	03/25/97	Fairbairn et al.
5,514,246	05/07/96	Blalock
5,409,563	04/25/95	Cathey
5,393,709	02/28/95	Lur et al.
5,389,496	02/14/95	Calvert et al.
5,389,195	02/14/95	Ouderkirk et al.
5,384,289	01/24/95	Westmoreland
5,368,687	11/29/94	Sandhu et al.
5,252,518	10/12/93	Sandhu et al.
5,240,739	08/31/93	Doan et al.
4,878,994	11/07/89	Jucha et al.
4,820,377	04/11/89	Davis et al.
4,795,880	01/03/89	Hayes et al.

Other References:

"Advanced Plasma Sources: What's Working?," *Semiconductor International*, pp. 56-58, 60, May 1994.

Applicants understand that no fee or certification is required for the submission and consideration of this information at this time.

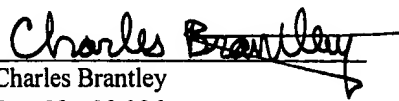
If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

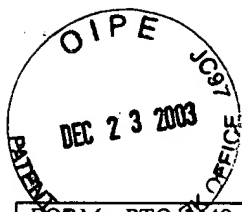
* * * *

A Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/12/99


Charles Brantley
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Micron Technology, Inc.
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(208) 368-4557
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS



Sheet: 1 of: 1

FORM: PTO-91449
(REV: 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEAtty Docket No:
95-0392.02

Serial No:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Applicant:
Sandhu, et al.Filing Date:
November 12, 1999

Group:

(37 CFR 1.98(b))

(use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	
	AA	5,824,607	10/20/98	Trow et al.	438	732
	AB	5,817,534	10/06/98	Ye et al.	438	10
	AC	5,812,403	09/22/98	Fong et al.	364	468.28
	AD	5,792,272	08/11/98	van Os et al.	118	723 IR
	AE	5,788,799	08/04/98	Steger et al.	156	345
	AF	5,788,778	08/04/98	Shang et al.	134	001
	AG	5,614,055	03/25/97	Fairbairn et al.	156	345
	AH	5,514,246	05/07/96	Blalock	156	643.1
	AI	5,409,563	04/25/95	Cathey	156	643
	AJ	5,393,709	02/28/95	Lur et al.	437	228
	AK	5,389,496	02/14/95	Calvert et al.	430	315
	AL	5,389,195	02/14/95	Ouderkirk et al.	156	643
	AM	5,384,289	01/24/95	Westmoreland	437	245
	AN	5,368,687	11/29/94	Sandhu et al.	156	664
	AO	5,252,518	10/12/93	Sandhu et al.	437	200
	AP	5,240,739	08/31/93	Doan et al.	427	126.1
	AQ	4,878,994	11/07/89	Jucha et al.	156	643
	AR	4,820,377	04/11/89	Davis et al.	156	643
	AS	4,795,880	01/03/89	Hayes et al.	219	121.52

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes	Translation No
	AT					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AU					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Initial

OTHER ART (including author, title, date, pertinent pages, etc.)

	AV		"Advanced Plasma Sources: What's Working?", "Semiconductor International, pp. 56-58, 60, May 1984
	AW		
	AX		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.